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REVIEW OF LITHUANIAN SSR AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS AT REPUBLIC PARTY CONGRESS

The 25 September 1952 report by A. Yu. Snehkus, Secretary, TsK KP(b) of Lithuania contained the following information on the progress of agriculture in the republic:

At present, 96.2 percent of all peasant households are in kolkhozes. However, the TsK KP(b) of Lithuania is guilty of permitting serious shortcomings and errors to exist in its supervision of kolkhozes. In many areas of the republic, serious kolkhoz charter violations are permitted. Necessary measures for strengthening the chairman's staff and that of other kolkhoz supervisory cadres are not taken. In some kolkhozes, even kulaks and their adherents occupy supervisory posts.

Among kolkhoz chairmen, there are 202 agricultural specialists and more than 700 have undergone training in the 2-year school or have taken courses.

At present, there are 2,656 kolkhozes, as compared with 6,500 before consolidation. On the average, each kolkhoz has 132 households and 1,500 hectares of land, including 950 hectares of plowland. In 1951, the basic means of production of kolkhozes increased by 28 percent, indivisible funds by 31 percent, and monetary income by 38 percent.

In the last years, the area sown to food and industrial crops has expanded considerably. As compared with 1949, the area sown to wheat has increased by 47 percent, fiber flax by 41 percent, and sugar beets by 24 percent. In 1951, the yield of agricultural crops exceeded the 1940 level.

Since the Sixth Congress, the number of MTS has doubled and the number of tractors in them increased many times. At present, there are thousands of tractors and about 800 combines in 127 MTS. In 1952, mechanization of field work rose to 46 percent. The more than 14,000 machine operators include tractor drivers, combine operators, flax puller operators, engineers, mechanics, and other specialists.

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The directives on the Fifth Five-Year Plan call for the following: increase in the total sown area through utilization of virgin, long-fallow, and drained land; considerable increase in the area sown to winter wheat, fodder crops, and potatoes; increase in the area devoted to flax and sugar beets, with new flax and sugar beet areas to be located in kolkhozes near flax and beet processing enterprises; rise in the yields of grain crops, fiber flax, sugar beets, potatoes, fodder crops, and sown and natural grasses; further development of animal husbandry, with emphasis on dairy cattle and hogs.

Crops rotation has thus far been introduced in 399 kolkhozes. It is to have been introduced in all kolkhozes by the end of 1953.

A great obstacle in the way of increasing livestock numbers and raising livestock productivity is the lag in development of a fodder base in kolkhozes of the republic. The task is to assure expansion of the area planted to fodder crops and an increase in the yield of grasses, fodder root crops, and ensilage crops.

Since the Sixth Congress, the work of sovkhoses has improved somewhat; livestock numbers and livestock productivity have increased to some extent. However, sovkhoses are not fulfilling the plans for grain, fodder, and other crop harvests; there are many serious shortcomings in the work of sovkhoses in 1952.

During the last 3 years, the republic has fulfilled the state plans for procurement of grain, potatoes, milk, wool, fur, and hides, but has failed to meet the plans for delivery of meat, sugar beets, and fiber flax.

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